



Ann's, came to visit them and told of a new religion he had joined while in England known as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His testimony impressed them so much that two years later, when the two Mormon missionaries came to their home, they were soon converted and were baptized November 29, 1850. After embracing this strange new religion, their kinfolk and friends turned against them and they longed to emigrate to Zion.

Brigham Young had asked Franklin D. Richards to send two Scotch shepherds to Utah. He contacted John, and shortly after, John, with his wife and two children, set sail on the ship "Kennebec." The ship sailed from Liverpool, England, January 1, 1852. They always felt it was through the hand of Providence that this opportunity to get to Utah came to them.

After a dangerous voyage of nine weeks, they arrived in New Orleans. There they chartered a steamboat up the Mississippi River. A 10-day delay on a sandbar decreased their food rations to a dangerously low level, and their two sweet children, because of undernourishment, were taken very ill and died. A month later this weary, childless couple were blessed with a baby girl. When the baby was but 10 days old they began their trek across the plains.

Many we...
camped, moved
to upper Provo Valley, now known as
Heber Valley. This was in the spring of
1860. They lived in the fort and their first
home was a dugout. That fall, on November
7, another little girl came to bless their
home.

It covers a long story to say that they
did their part, and did it well in every
enterprise in Wasatch County.

On August 8, 1862, John took as his
plural wife a beautiful dark-eyed Scotch
lass by the name of Isabella Crawford, a
native of Blantyre, Scotland. As a young
woman, she emigrated to America and
worked in the cotton mills at Holyoke, Mas-
sachusetts, to get money to come to Utah.
She, too, had left her loved ones and her
all for the Gospel's sake. She never saw
or heard of her family again after being
driven from her home when she joined the
Church.

Isabella proved to be a kind and faithful
wife and was the mother of seven children.
Ann was the mother of 15 children, mak-
ing a family of 22. Fifteen grew to ma-
turity in this valley. One member of this
family, James C. Murdoch, who observed
his ninetieth birthday February 11, 1959,
and his faithful wife, Sarah Giles, are still
with us, beloved and respected pioneers of
our valley.

John M. Murdoch was the first recorder
of Wasatch County. He was second coun-
selor to William Wall, the first presiding
Elder of the valley. He was captain in the
Blackhawk War, president of the High
Priests' Quorum, and in 1899 was ordaine
a Patriarch of Wasatch Stake. He w
noted for his kind, comforting words &
actions to those in need. He lived long
well, and at the age of 90 passed :

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beloved and
to be 80 ye
ored husband

